IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Christopher F. Claiborne, et al.

Serial No.:

Unassigned

Case No.: 20282DA

Art Unit: 1625

Filed:

Even date herewith

Examiner:

P.L. Morris

For:

SUBSTITUTED IMIDAZOLES HAVING CYTOKINE

INHIBITORY ACTIVITY

The Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

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Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

In the specification:

Page 1, line 4, Please insert the following: \(\frac{1}{2} \). This is a divisional of U.S. Patent

Application No. 09/358,199 filed July 21, 1999 and claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S.

Application No. 60/095,051, filed July 31, 1998. - -.

In the claims:

Plese cancel claim 3 and amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1. (Amended) A compound represented by formula I:

(I)

wherein